GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1688
ANSWERED ON:04.12.2006
TERMINATOR SEEDS
Kaushal Shri Raghuvir Singh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether due to the use of `terminator seed` technology several problems are reported to have been cropped up ;

(b) If so, the details thereof ;

(c) Whether the Government has conducted any study in this regard;

(d) If so, the details thereof; and

(e) The remedial steps taken/proposed in this regard ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) to (e) : The use of Genetic Use Restriction Technology and Terminator Tehnology is not allowed in India. Under provisions of Protection of Plant Varieties & Farmers` Rights Act, 2001, any variety of any genera or species which involves Genetic Use Restriction Technology and Terminator Technology shall not be registered. Any transgenic crop developed for commercial release is tested and verified for confirmation of the absence of terminator gene before it is permitted for any field testing by the Genetic Engineering Approval Committee (GEAC), functioning under the Ministry of Environment & Forests. GEAC has not received any report regarding use of `Terminator Seed` technology. Since this technology has not been permitted for use within the country, the question of conducting any study does not arise.